

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Bob Lake, on January 24, 2007 at 8:00  
A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Jon Sonju, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 313, 1/17/2007; HB 337,  
1/18/2007

Executive Action: HB 75; HB 79; HB 108; HB 196

**HEARING ON HB 313**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:24 Rep. William Jones (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 313, Constitutional amendment to limit taxable value for senior citizens and introduced Rep. Gordon Hendrick as co-sponsor.

00:03:05 Rep. Gordon Hendrick (R), HD 14, continued to open as co-sponsor on HB 313.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:07:54 Duane Lutke, Polson

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:09:34 Ed Caplis, Montana Department of Revenue

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:10:09 Rep. Lambert  
 00:11:56 Rep. Erickson  
 00:16:37 Rep. Jopek  
 00:19:58 Randy Wilke, Montana Department of Revenue  
 00:20:56 Rep. Jopek  
 00:25:45 Chairman Lake  
 00:26:44 Rep. Jopek  
 00:27:36 Rep. Ross  
 00:28:24 Rep. Jones  
 00:32:39 Rep. Grinde  
 00:33:09 Rep. Jones  
 00:36:39 Rep. Grinde  
 00:37:29 Rep. MacLaren  
 00:38:41 Rep. Erickson  
 00:48:02 Rep. Hendrick  
 00:49:42 Rep. Hilbert  
 00:50:25 Jeff Martin, Legislative Services Division  
 00:51:43 Rep. Hilbert  
 00:52:22 Rep. Cohenour  
 00:53:20 Randy Wilke  
 00:54:04 Rep. Cohenour  
 00:57:47 Rep. Pomnichowski  
 01:00:04 Rep. Jopek  
 01:01:03 Jeff Martin  
 01:01:11 Chairman Lake  
 01:02:15 Jeff Martin  
 01:02:36 Rep. Jopek  
 01:03:04 Chairman Lake  
 01:03:34 Ed Caplis, Montana Department of Revenue  
 01:04:24 Rep. Jopek  
 01:06:06 Jeff Martin  
 01:08:25 Rep. Butcher  
 01:11:54 Rep. Hendrick  
 01:13:20 Rep. Butcher

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:16:30 Rep. William Jones

**HEARING ON HB 337**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:21:05 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 337, Permissive levy for firefighter disability insurance.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:23:45 John Semple, representing Montana Fire Alliance

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:25:08 Rep. Ross

01:26:48 Rep. Hilbert

01:28:27 Rep. Sonju

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:29:46 Rep. Jill Cohenour

01:30:22 Break

01:46:16 Resume

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 75**

01:47:22 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that HB 75 **DO PASS.**

01:47:40 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that HB 75 **BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

01:49:16 Jeff Martin

**EXHIBIT**(tah16a01)

01:52:01 Rep. McAlpin

01:53:11 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

01:53:32 **Motion:** Rep. Lambert moved that HB 75 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

01:53:43 Rep. Cohenour

01:54:05 Rep. Lambert

01:54:38 Rep. Sonju

01:54:48 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 79**

01:55:21 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that HB 79 **DO PASS.**

01:56:08 **Motion:** Rep. McAlpin moved that HB 79 **BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

01:56:20 Rep. McAlpin

**EXHIBIT**(tah16a02)

01:57:25 Rep. Cohenour

01:57:57 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

01:58:18 **Motion:** Rep. MacLaren moved that HB 79 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

01:58:31 Rep. Hamilton

01:58:51 Rep. Cohenour

01:59:16 Rep. Sonju

01:59:34 Rep. McAlpin

02:00:13 **Vote:** **MOTION FAILED** 9-9 by roll call vote with Reps. Bixby, Cohenour, Erickson, Grinde, Hamilton, Jopek, Maclaren, McAlpin, and Pomnichowski voting aye.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 108**

02:03:09 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that HB 108 **DO PASS.**

02:04:17 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that HB 108 **BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

02:05:07 Jeff Martin

**EXHIBIT**(tah16a03)

02:06:39 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

02:06:55 **Motion:** Rep. Erickson moved that HB 108 **DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

02:07:05 Rep. Erickson  
02:08:32 Rep. Cohenour  
02:09:39 Rep. Sonju  
02:10:17 Rep. Erickson  
02:12:07 Rep. Sonju  
02:12:50 Rep. Erickson  
02:13:11 Rep. Sonju  
02:13:25 Rep. Ross  
02:14:08 Rep. Cohenour  
02:15:13 Rep. Erickson  
02:17:17 Rep. Butcher

02:17:24 **Vote:** **MOTION FAILED** 8-10 by roll call vote with Reps. Bixby, Cohenour, Erickson, Grinde, Hamilton, Jopek, McAlpin, and Pomnichowski voting aye.

02:18:35 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Cohenour moved that HB 108 **BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED. MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 196**

02:19:01 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that HB 196 **DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

02:19:12 Rep. Erickson  
02:20:21 Rep. Lambert

02:21:12 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that the DO PASS MOTION ON HB 196 **BE WITHDRAWN.**

**ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS:****EXHIBIT(tah16a04)**

Pertains to HB 216 heard on January 18, 2007.

**EXHIBIT(tah16a05)**

Pertains to HB 100 heard on January 11, 2007.

**EXHIBIT(tah16a06)**

Pertains to HB 108 heard on January 12, 2007.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:20 A.M.

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REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([tah16aad.pdf](#))**